

**To:** Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]  
**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 7:17:21 PM  
**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Sample Results

Hi Paula,

We've been getting lots of questions from staff about how to handle questions from the public if they're out working (meetings, conferences, etc). Laura worked this up for review. What do you think about sending something like this out? And can you get the language approved on your end?

Thanks very much. Sorry I'm inundating.

Rebecca

## **Deliberative Process/Ex. 5**

The following language may also be useful to those who need to communicate with the public as part of your EPA work:

## **Deliberative Process/Ex. 5**

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

Office: 303-312-6757

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**From:** Card, Joan

**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:11 PM

**To:** Russo, Rebecca

**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results

I would send without that for now. Needs some work about Incident Command, I think.

**From:** Russo, Rebecca

**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 1:05 PM

**To:** Card, Joan

**Subject:** RE: Water Quality Sample Results

On last thing. I added some language on the bottom. Deb T. and I discussed yesterday and she was alright with the concept. If that is something that needs a longer review time, let me know and we will go out immediately with the Draft All Hands Memo below, minus the section in yellow.

Thank you.

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

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**Draft All Hands Memo RE 8/12 Sampling Results**

# **Deliberative Process/Ex. 5**

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Laura Jenkins

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**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 10:42 AM  
**To:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Subject:** FW: Water Quality Sample Results

Would you mind drafting something up and we'll try to get it out? Thanks.

Rebecca A. Russo

Region 8 Congressional and Intergovernmental Liaison

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**From:** Russo, Rebecca  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 7:33 AM  
**To:** Thomas, Deb  
**Cc:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Subject:** Fwd: Water Quality Sample Results

Hi Deb,

This was great news. I recommend we share as a mass mailer this morning. Thoughts?

Rebecca

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Russo, Rebecca" <[Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov](mailto:Russo.Rebecca@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 12, 2015 at 11:59:07 PM MDT  
**Subject:** **Water Quality Sample Results**

Hi all,

Please find below an update on water quality samples for August 12, 2015.

To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, water quality samples were collected at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 5, 2015. Samples were taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

The data tables can be found on our website:

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine/epa-statement-colorado-data-gold-king-mine-release>

<http://www2.epa.gov/goldkingmine>

Rebecca A. Russo

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